



The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida



Volume 28, Issue 14

Newsletter of the Society

June 2003

President: Barbara Tansey

Editor: Mary Ellen Gray

MALTA

For twenty years Mario Ferrante has been studying, writing, and lecturing on the cultural, anthropological, and archaeological life styles, as well as the art and architecture of ancient, primitive, and modern societies.

Mario has over fifteen years of experience as a science museum's Curator of Natural History and Archaeological Artifacts. His lecturing experience includes teaching at Nova University, Florida International University, and Miami-Dade Community College. He is a cultural historian, explorer, world traveler, and excellent photographer.

This time Professor Ferrante will take us on a journey to the land of the Maltese people, whose roots go back before the time of the ancient Egyptians. Indeed, their freestanding temples date back to Neolithic time, circa 7,000 BP. This journey will take you to the archaeological sites of Tarxian, the Hypogeum, Hagar Quim, and the temples of Gozo, as well as the archaeological museums of Valletta and Victoria. This interesting slide presentation promises to be informative and above all, fun.

So please mark your calendars to hear Mario Ferrante speak on Thursday, June 12th, at 7:30 p.m., at the Atlantic Radio & Telephone office building, 2495 N.W. 35th Avenue.

Contact Barbara Tansey at (305) 633-9636 more information and directions. Hope to see you there!

Inside This Issue	
1	Mario Ferrante, Malta, page 1
2	ASSF Members on adventure, page 2
3	On-going Digs, Conferences, Publications and News, page 3
4	Membership Information, page 4

A.S.S.F. MEMBERS IN THE ABACOS



ASSF members Beth and Gordon Read recently returned from an intriguing archaeological expedition to Green Turtle Cay, an off shore island of the Abacos. Alton Lowe, a successful painter and native of Green Turtle Cay sponsored the dig along with the Bahamian government. The purpose of the trip was to help date materials from the pioneer settlement, New Plymouth, which was established by the Loyalists.

While in New Plymouth the travelers assisted with shovel tests by the Gaol, jail, noting that the earliest artifacts found were from the 1830's. Among the items found were pipe stems, pipe bowls, beads and glass buttons. They also screened artifacts from the "privy" and found a large quantity of bottles and pipes.

Still there are unanswered questions, such as reason and origin of the quarried stone in the base of the jail. This dig is ongoing, and future projects planned include further exploration of the jail site, as well as helping the small frame museum update displays with better labeling and descriptions.

Some of the other participants on this trip included, Bob Carr, Alison Elgart-Berry, Jim Clupper, and John Beriault. Beth reported that the accommodations were comfortable and the food delicious. Also, the narrow streets in New Plymouth and the size of the island, made golf carts the perfect mode of transportation. In conclusion Beth stated, "It was great fun and we would go back again the next time."



A WORKING VACATION

Would you travel all the way to Israel to work hard on an army base in hot, dusty conditions? ASSF member **Seth Lefkow** did just that, leaving Florida on April 24th and returning on May 19th. While there Seth encountered many surprising scenes along with many truly astounding sights.

The base where the volunteer group was assigned was the main supply base for the entire army, supplying everything except munitions. Though the men and women worked equally hard on necessary tasks during the week, the volunteers were required to leave the base on the weekend. Then Seth had the opportunity to tour both Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. From the caves at Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found, to the actively working museum in Tel Aviv, Seth stated that the historical part was an amazing thing to see.

Interacting with Israeli residents after experiencing the tense conditions of the area, Seth couldn't help but inquire about their attitude. They said, "We live our lives." Seth also learned a different concept of "army." The Israeli youthful army is built on a mandatory draft, with men serving 3 yrs., and women 2 yrs. Ask Seth about his "Fearless Leader", the 19 yr. old carrying an AR14. When asked if he'd return, he stated, "Many members of my group were repeated returns, and when I go back next time I'd like to work in the armored dept."

ASSF monthly meetings are held the second Thursday of each month.
Location: Atlantic Radio & Telephone, 2495 NW 35th Avenue, 7:30 pm.
Call Barbara at 305-633-9636 for directions and information.

Upcoming speakers:

(Note: July and August there are no meetings)

Sept. 11....Gary Beiter - Update- Miami Sites

Oct. 9.....Rick Ferrer - South Dade Preservation

Nov.TBD

Dec.ASSF Christmas Dinner – no meeting

If you have a speaker you'd like to refer please contact Beth Read at W4YIH@earthlink.net or Pat Cervi at pcerv@msn.com.

IN THE KNOW...

Read any good books lately that our members might enjoy? Why don't you share the title/author, and a snippet about the volume in this column? Have you got interesting web sites that could be added to the ASSF web page, or to next month's newsletter? If so, please send information to the email address or phone number listed on the back of this newsletter.



Next FAS Board Meeting:

August 23, 2003
Weedon Island Preserve
Cultural and Natural History Center
St. Petersburg, FL

News From the Desk Of...

Gary Beiter - Dade County

Archaeologist Snapper Creek Project
Lab work being done with the report to be completed by 6/30.

Bob Carr – Director, Archaeological and Historical Conservancy

One Miami Project

Work on this project is currently restricted to approved personnel only.

Screen like a Banshee!

Please come out and help screen artifact-rich dirt rescued from the Bamboo Site, located at the Everglades Outpost just outside of Florida City. Although we've been screening for sometime, there is plenty left to sift. Any help is appreciated and no experience is necessary! Address: 35601 S.W. 192 Ave.

Call Brian at 305-251-8386 for directions and more information.

If you can't make it to an event, don't forget that the **Historical Museum of Southern Florida** also has online Exhibitions covering topics about Florida such as archaeology (including the Miami Circle), folklore and history.

Web address: <http://www.historical-museum.org/exhibits/exhibits.htm>

Check Out the...

FOSSIL CLUB OF MIAMI

12540 SW 37th Street, Miami, FL 33175.

Club Interests: All types of fossils.

Meetings: Held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the lapidary workshop at the Museum of Science, 3280 South Miami Ave., Miami. Meetings feature a guest speaker, and fossil show and tell sessions.

Florida Anthropological Society
FAS membership application/renewal form

YES, I want to join **FAS**. I enclose \$ _____

- INDIVIDUAL, \$25 FAMILY, \$30 INSTITUTIONAL, \$25
 SUSTAINING, \$40 OR MORE PATRON, \$100 LIFE, \$500

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP CODE _____

PHONE (W) _____ (H) _____

Mail to: Stacy Hopper
 1603 Watrous Drive
 Titusville, Florida 32780

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA
ASSF membership application/renewal form

I have read and will abide by the Objectives and Code of Ethics of ASSF listed below, and I wish to apply for membership.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone (w) _____ (h) _____

CHECK ONE: New Member Renewal

CHECK ONE: Individual (\$20) Family (\$25)

Mail to: Barbara Tansey
 2495 N.W. 35th Ave.
 Miami, Fl 33142

ASSF CODE OF ETHICS:

1. Members of the Society agree to promote archaeological site preservation and conservation, to excavate only endangered sites as part of a qualified research group, to not excavate archaeological sites for the unscientific collecting of artifacts.
2. All artifacts and material recovered from Society projects are the property of the Society.

ASSF OBJECTIVE:

To provide a formal means by which individuals and institutions interested in archaeological and anthropological studies in South Florida and related areas may come together for mutual benefit.

RETURN ADDRESS:

The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida
 Barbara Tansey, President
 2495 NW 35th Avenue
 Miami, Florida 33142

FIRST CLASS



PLACE STAMP
 HERE

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 12th, 7:30 pm,
 at 2495 N.W. 35th Avenue

SPEAKER: Professor Mario Ferrante

OFFICERS: Barbara Tansey, President; Jim South, Vice President; Brian Conesa, Treasurer; Pat Cervi, Secretary.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Gary Beiter, Carter Burrus, Jr., Bob Carr, George Cummings, Darrell Cunningham, Stanley Kiem, Seth Lefkow, Jim Lord, Beth Read, Mary Ellen Gray and Lisa Weier.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Mary Ellen Gray can be reached at Orchid0017@msn.com

ASSF web page: <http://assf.tripod.com>

Address

BARBARA TANSEY/ ROBERT FREER
 2495 N.W. 35th AVE.
 Miami, FL. 33142